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Dated: January 5, 2004

Signature:

Marian L. Christopher
(Marian L. Christopher)

Docket No.: 313632001000
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Wilhelmus Evergardu HENNINK, et al.

Confirmation No. 8024

Application No.: 09/913,967

Art Unit: 1615

Filed: December 31, 2001

Examiner: B. Fubara

For: STEREOCOMPLEX HYDROGELS

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated July 29, 2003 (Paper No. 7), for which a response was due on October 29, 2003. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a three month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to January 29, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.